

**KINGSTON HILL ACADEMY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
MEETING MINUTES**

April 3, 2014

5:00 p.m.

Members Present: Dr. John Nazarian, Helen Morcos, Johnna Bicknell, Anne Considine, Debra Deion, Anne Kuzminsky, Lorraine Melillo, Linda Paolillo

Recording Secretary: Katie Perry

Members Absent: Dr. June Groden, Lisa Davis, Dr. Murray, Rob Raposo

Guests: Tanya Deanseris, Assistant Principal

Dr. Nazarian called the meeting to order at 5:04 p.m. Dr. Nazarian declared there were enough trustees to meet a quorum.

1. Approval of Minutes from January 8, 2014 Meeting

Dr. Nazarian requested a motion to approve the minutes of the January 8, 2014 Board meeting. There were no corrections or additions to the minutes.

The motion to approve the minutes was seconded and passed unanimously.

2. Parent Comments/Staff Comments

None.

3. Financial Report – Helen Morcos

Ms. Morcos passed the financial report to all members. For the month ending January 2014, the financial statement for KHA indicates a deficit of \$10,000. This deficit is in direct correlation to transportation billing; KHA has more students with special needs; therefore, there's additional 1:1 staffing. Two students left before the end of the quarter in December that keeps the school from being able to bill for that quarter. And also, even though we are chartered for 180 students K-5, we have 186 students for which we can only bill the district for, not the state for the additional 6.

Ms. Morcos handed out the audited financial statement ending December 11, 2013 from Mullen Scorpio Cerilli. Dr. Nazarian requested a new statement be produced reflecting Board of Trustees, not Board of Directors. Dr. Nazarian requested a motion to approve the financial report. The motion was made, seconded, and passed unanimously.

Ms. Morcos outlined the capital improvement plan for adding classrooms. The previous builders entered a quote for adding one new teaching classroom, two small offices, a sensory room, computer lab and a storage room of "\$809,000". Ms. Morcos will ask for a quote to include two additional teaching classrooms. We have not yet received a quote for the water project.

Ms. Morcos also brought awareness to the Board of Legislation H7606, which states charters should be paid per student rate instead of a blended rate. This new legislation could cost KHA \$900,000. Ms. Morcos does not anticipate it will pass, nor does Steve Nardelli at the RI Foundation.

4. Principal's Report – Linda Paolillo

- Ms. Paolillo clarified the issues with transportation costs. KHA and Compass are working with Ocean State and First Student in obtaining competitive quotes. Ms. Paolillo also shared that the Charter League is fighting the transportation billing issue behind closed doors.
- The lottery was concluded and the numbers are set for next year. There will be two kindergarten classes, two first-grade classes, one second-grade class, one third-grade class, one fourth-grade class, and one fourth/fifth-grade split class. Ms. Paolillo feels this is a good time

to introduce split classrooms as the Common Core is so new. KHA will refer to Mike (interim principal at Compass) as a resource as all of their classes are split.

- Ms. Paolillo passed around the NECAP scores. KHA did very well, improving in several areas, although this is all irrelevant since there will no longer be NECAP testing.
- Ms. Paolillo also shared the new RIDE Model for School Emergency Planning. The administrators and teaching staff have met three times and will have two more meetings. This will be complete and ready for the Board next year.

4a. Assistant Principal's Report – Tanya Deanseris

Ms. Deanseris shared that the third grade students took a paper version of a PARC test on April 2, and will take another test at the end of May. This is really just a “test of a test” and KHA will not be given the results/scores.

5. Old Business

WIFI will be installed this summer. Currently, two special education classrooms have hubs because it is required.

Dr. Nazarian reminded members to think about new Board member nominations. Geoffrey Hill, parent, was mentioned by Ms. Paolillo.

6. New Business

Ms. Morcos received an email from a parent of a KHA student who is now 16 and recently self-published a book containing around 400 pages. The title of the book is “Quest for Justice: A Minecraft Novel” written by Sean Fay Wolfe. Sean did his first book-signing at KHA.

The Annual Meeting is in June. Dr. Nazarian asked that Linda Ollari determine which trustees’ terms are up, and who wishes to be considered for membership.

7. Adjournment

The motion to adjourn was made, seconded, and passed unanimously. Meeting was adjourned at 6:57 p.m.

Next meeting date: May 14, 2014

Public Contact Information:

Linda Ollari

401-274-6310

lolari@grodencenter.org